

what to do on campus...

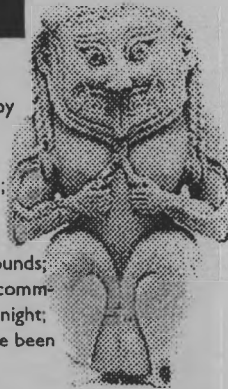
- Find the danger spots on campus. A group of women could walk around the grounds at night to find badly lit or patrolled areas (taking care not to put themselves in danger while doing so!), or you could put up a campus map in the toilets where women students/staff could mark out places (with dates if possible) where they have been attacked or harassed.
- Hold a women's group meeting - if there isn't a women's group in your college maybe you should start one.
- Find out the attitudes of security guards and porters
- Ask the student unions to:
 - set up a taxi point where women can meet other women in the university and take taxis home together - this will reduce costs for individual students and encourage women to get a taxi when it's late rather than walking
 - put rape alarms on sale in the campus shop
 - organise self-defence and assertiveness training courses for women students (could be done in conjunction with other colleges in the area).
 - find out about local (outside university) support groups (e.g. Rape Crisis Centres, women's aid/counselling centres, autonomous women's groups, etc.) and publicise them
 - check what the college workers and academic staff have to say about security problems etc.

awareness raising campaign?

- Organise discussion meetings and invite speakers from police, student union, university staff and women's centres;
- Organise a candle-lit procession (a "Reclaim the Night" demo) in the area;
- Hold a Women's Safety disco, or show relevant films and videos;
- Picket college authorities asking that the issue of women's safety be taken up;
- Run stalls in town and in college providing information;
- Organise a petition or survey;
- Run an awareness week or day;
- Hold a general meeting for your student union and put forward a motion on women's safety (model motion available from NUS-UK).

some demands...

- Adequate lighting of all areas of college grounds & student residences;
- Reduction of excessive foliage around routes used by students;
- Adequate telephone coverage around campus;
- Well-lit, well patrolled and easily accessible carparks;
- Late-night transport;
- Termination of lectures before dark;
- Adequate staffing and security patrols of college grounds;
- Transport after evening classes and safe overnight accommodation for women unable to travel home safely at night;
- Advice and Counselling services for women that have been attacked;
- A sexual harassment officer on campus.



AUSTRIA: Österreichische Hochschülerschaft
Lichtentsteinstr. 13, 1090 Wien
Tel +43/1/310 888 052 Fax +43/1/310 888 036
e-mail international@oeh.ac.at

BELGIUM: Fédération des Etudiants Francophones
Chaussée d'Haecht 25, B-1210 Brussels
Tel +32/2/723 0154 Fax +32/2/217 2793
e-mail info@fedestudent.ug.ac.be

NETHERLANDS: Vereniging van Vlaamse Studenten
Karmminkensstraat 5, B-1000 Brussels
Tel +32/2/511 93 75 Fax +32/2/511 7806
e-mail vrs@glabe

BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA: Unija studenata BiH
Zrnaja od Boane 8, 71000 Sarajevo e-mail lejla@borce.org.ba

BULGARIA: Union of Bulgarian Students
10 Narodno Sabranie Sq, Sofia 1000
Tel +359/2/878 566 Fax +359/2/987 7477

CROATIA: Croatian Student Parliament
Trg Hrvatskih Viteza 13, 1000 Zagreb
Tel/Fax +385/1/410 724, 455 66 00
e-mail svvlucic@fizoolof.fzg.hr, svz@cel.hr

DENMARK: Danske Studerendes Fællesråd
Vesterbrogade 15, DK-1620 København V
Tel +45/3/1313 813 Fax +45/3/1313 897
e-mail peters@srnu.au.dk

GERMANY: Landessammenslutningen af Moderate Studenter
Postbox 56, 1002 København K
Tel +45/33/690 969 Fax +45/33/910 961
e-mail lms@danstud.dk

ESTONIA: Federation of Estonian Student Unions
Gonsior 9-108, Tallinn EE 0001
Tel +372/2/437 891 e-mail juhatus@fes.ee

FINLAND: Suomen ylioppilaskuntien liitto
Kalevankatu 3A, 46, SF-00100 Helsinki
Tel +358/9/680 3110 Fax +358/9/642 413
e-mail entupentikainen@syhelsinki.fi

FRANCE: Union Nationale des Etudiants de France -
Indépendante et Démocratique, 46 rue A Thomas, F-75 010 Paris
Tel +33/1/42 02 25 55 Fax +33/1/42 03 3391

GERMANY: freier Zusammenschluss von studentinnen-
schaften, Reuterstr. 44, D-53113 Bonn
Tel +49/228/262 119 Fax +49/228/242 0388
e-mail fzs@link-k.com/link.kap.org

HUNGARY: Hallgatói Önkormányzatok Országos
Konferenciája, Ferenciek Tere 2, H-1053 Budapest
Tel +36/1/117 55 85
e-mail se-se@tudens.elte.hu

ICELAND: Studentarad Háskola Íslands
Studentahemili vid Hringbraut IS-101 Reykjavik
Tel +354/5621 080 Fax +354/5621 040
e-mail stu@vortex.is

IRELAND: Union of Students in Ireland
1/2 Aston Place, Temple Bar, IRL-Dublin 2
Tel +353/1/671 0088 Fax +353/1/671 0761
e-mail education@us.ie

ISRAEL: National Union of Israeli Students
37, Nahal Ayalon, Tel Aviv 67771
Tel +972-3-537 3591 Fax +972-3-688 2737
e-mail nuis@post.tau.ac.il

LUXEMBOURG: Union Nationale des Etudiant(e)s
du Luxembourg
Boite Postale 324, L-2013 Luxembourg
Tel +352/25 31 23 Fax +352/25 3122
e-mail ub3d@r.uni-karlsruhe.de

MACEDONIA: National Students Union of Macedonia
ul. Pirinista bb, PO Box 62, 91000 Skopje
Tel/fax +389/9/1367 740

MALTA: Kunsill Tal-Iskullenti Universitarji
Dar l-Iskullenti, Università ta' Malta, Msida MSD 06
Tel +356/343 085 Fax +356/336 450
e-mail ksu@cis.um.edu.mt

NETHERLANDS: Landelijke Studenten Vakbond
Postbus 1335, NL-3500 BH Utrecht
Tel +31/30/231 64 64 Fax +31/30/234 2119
e-mail lsvb@lsv.nl

NORWAY: Norsk Studentunion
Stegveien 21, N-0458 Oslo 4
Tel +47/22/044 950 Fax +47/22/044 969
e-mail friz.frolich@studentuse.no

POLAND: Zrzeszenie Studentow Polskich,
Wydział Zagraniczny, ul. Ordynada 9, PL-00950 Warszawa
Tel +48/22/828 39 90, 92, 80 Fax +48/22/828 3990
e-mail zsp@kpatm.com.pl

SLOVAKIA: Rada Studentov Vysokych Skol SR
Brestová 1, SK-821 02 Bratislava
Tel/Fax +421/7/525 2106,7 e-mail rsva@ginet.sk

SLOVENIA: Students Union of Slovenia
Post Predal 572, Kerankova 4, SI-1000 Ljubljana
Tel +386/6/1131 70 10 Fax +386/6/1133 3348
e-mail uros.vaig@uni-lj.si

SWEDEN: Sveriges Forenada Studentiarer
Box 6476, S-113 82 Stockholm
Tel +46/8/545 70 100 Fax +46/8/545 70 110
e-mail sfs@rfs.se

SWITZERLAND: Verband der Schweizerischen
Studentinnenschaften/Union Nationale des
Etudiants de Suisse
Scharzenstr. 1, CH-3008 Bern
Tel +41/31/382 11 71 Fax +41/31/382 1176

UNITED KINGDOM: National Union of Students
461 Holloway Road, GB-London N7 6LJ
Tel +44/171/272 89 00 Fax +44/171/263 5713
e-mail nusuk@nus.org.uk

ESIB

The National Unions of Students
in Europe

Liechtensteinstr. 13
1090 Vienna
Austria

Tel: +43/1/310 888 048
Fax: +43/1/310 888 036
e-mail: esib@oeh.ac.at

No Means No!



ESIB

The National Unions of Students
in Europe

Part of ESIB's Europe-wide Anti-Rape
Campaign in Higher Education 1997/98
supported by
the European Commission



what rape is & isn't

myths about rape...

what to do on campus

practical hints

Rape is ...

- sex without permission.
- an act of power and dominance.
- a result of men's anger.
- learned behaviour.
- a crime.
- an instrument of oppression.
- accepted by many in our society.
- forced intercourse.
- happening all the time - to our friends, our family, to women & men around us.

Rape is not ...

- consensual sex.
- making love: it is a brutal physical assault.
- excusable or wanted. Ever.
- "acceptable" within a relationship.
- something that happens to "other people". It can happen to you, your friends, colleagues, family members...
- funny. Jokes about rape are just not funny.

some myths about rape...

• Sexual assault/rape is an impulsive act

- Wrong. A 1978 survey showed that in the vast majority of cases the assault was planned in advance. When three or more assailants are involved, 90% are planned. With two, 83%, with one 58%.

• Women ask for it - they wear sexy clothes, they go out alone...

- Wrong. The victim is absolutely NOT responsible for the rape. Many convicted rapists were unable to recall what their victim was wearing, or even what s/he looked like. Survivors of rape range in age from six weeks to 93 years.

• ...they talk to men flirtatiously, they are promiscuous...

- Wrong. A person who dresses or acts in an attractive/seductive way, or who flirts, or who likes to have sex is NOT asking to be raped any more than a person with money is asking to be robbed.

• If you kiss or consent to some physical touching, you are willing to have intercourse

- Wrong. You may stop when and if you want to. A person may welcome some forms of contact and be opposed to others. Agreeing to one does not mean you have agreed to all forms of sexual contact.

• If somebody buys you dinner or drinks, or helps you with a paper, you "owe" him/her sexual favours

- Wrong. Just because a person chooses to help or to invite another person out does not imply any obligation if there is no consent. Otherwise this is coercion.

• If you've had sex with the person before it isn't rape

- Wrong. Just because you slept with a person before doesn't mean you are obliged to do so again.

• If you do not struggle or use force to resist, it isn't rape

- Wrong. If you are forced to have sex without your consent, you have been raped, whether or not a fight was involved. Alcohol, drugs and coercion are weapons, just like guns and knives. If a person has passed out or is not in control of him/herself or is being pressurised/threatened, then having sex with him/her is a crime.

• If you are drunk or on drugs you can't rape somebody or at least you're not responsible for forcing somebody to have sex with you

- Wrong. If you "choose to use", you are still responsible for your violent actions.

• Men and boys do not get raped

- Wrong. One in six males will be sexually victimised in his lifetime - studies in



the U.S. have shown that 98% of men who rape other men are heterosexual.

• Rapists are usually crazy psychos who do not know their victims

- Wrong. In up to 80% of the cases, the victim knows or has met his/her assailant. Perhaps in films this is not the case, but in reality you normally know the person who is raping you - he (and sometimes she, although 99% of rapists are men) is a friend, a co-worker, a professor, a fellow student, or a family member. A woman's risk of being raped or

assaulted by somebody she knows is four times higher than by a stranger.

• Rape doesn't happen in university

- Wrong. In the U.S. there is one rape on campus every 21 hours. In 1985, a survey of 32 U.S. campuses showed that one in eight women were the victims of rape, and one in 12 men admitted to having forced a woman to have intercourse through physical violence or coercion - practically none identified themselves as rapists. Only 57% of these women labelled their experience as rape - the other 43% had not even admitted to themselves that they had been raped

• Rape only happens on dark nights in the bushes

- Wrong. Rape happens on dates, in offices, in people's apartments, in public.

• Rape isn't really a problem where I study/live

- Wrong. Statistics show that 30% of stranger rapes and 1% of acquaintance rapes are reported to the police.... just because you don't hear about it doesn't mean it isn't happening.

• Often people lie about sexual assault to get revenge on somebody

- Wrong. According to the FBI, only 1-2% of reported rapes are false (same as for any other crime). The stigma surrounding rape is frequently so great that it prevents a person from falsely reporting the crime.

• Many people say no when they mean yes

- Wrong. If a person says no, regardless of the circumstances, it must be respected. There is no such thing as past the point of no return or not able to stop.

...sexual harassment?

Sexual harassment is unwanted sexual attention. The University of Toronto defines it as any unwelcome pressure for sexual favours, or any offensive emphasis on the sex or sexual orientation of another person; it is behaviour which creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive working or learning environment. Students, staff and faculty can be both the victims and perpetrators of sexual harassment; and although women are most often sexually harassed by men, the reverse can occur.

Examples of sexual harassment on campus could include your professor hugging, patting or otherwise touching you in a way that upsets you or makes you feel uncomfortable, thus making you think about dropping his/her course; your tutor/professor offers you a better grade or academic opportunity in return for a date or sexual favours, or implies that your grade will suffer if you refuse; another student keeps asking you out, ignores your refusals, follows you and won't leave you alone; a group of students regularly stand somewhere and shout sexual remarks at passers-by; a staff member with whom you have contact regularly continuously comments about gay people in a negative way whenever you are there, although you have not hidden the fact that you yourself are gay.... and so on and so forth.

Sexual harassment may include:

- Suggestive comments or gestures
- Sexual innuendo or banter
- Leering
- Remarks about dress or lifestyle
- Verbal insults or abuse
- Pressure for dates
- Intrusive physical conduct
- Unwanted touching
- A single incident
- Part of a continuous barrage of offensive remarks or actions
- Jokes

Purple Ribbon?



The Purple Ribbon Project (PRP) is a non-profit education and awareness effort dedicated to reducing violence in our society, our communities, our schools, and most importantly, our homes.

The ESIB Anti-Rape Campaign is run in cooperation with the PRP.

NO MEANS NO!

practical steps...

- Trust your instincts. If you feel pressurised, afraid or uncomfortable, then leave/ask the person to leave, get up or protest loudly.
- Be clear with your partner as to what you want/intend - establish that any sexual activity will be a mutual decision. Don't worry about being polite - speak up if you are getting confusing messages from your partner.
- Be careful when inviting someone back home or going back to their place. Carry money for a taxi or a phone call, or try to arrange your own transport.
- Don't accept lifts with newly made acquaintances on your own.
- If possible, let a friend/roommate know where you are and who you're with when you go out alone.
- Take a self-defence course - it also keeps you fit!
- Use peepholes to identify people before opening the door and require ID from service providers
- If you have a car:
 - Keep the doors and windows locked, and have your keys ready when returning to the car;
 - Park in a well-lit place if you're out late;
 - Check the interior of the car before you get in;
 - If you're followed into your driveway, stay in the car with the doors locked, beep the horn until the neighbours react or the person goes away.
- If you don't have a car:
 - Be observant of things around you, avoid dark doorways and shrubbery;
 - Walk with a friend if at all possible, do not hitchhike
 - Avoid short cuts through parks, etc.
 - When taking a taxi, ask the driver to wait till you're inside;
 - Check where emergency phones are on campus
 - Stay in well-lit areas if at all possible



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Sources: NUS-UK Women's Campaigns (on safety and on violence); NSU Trondheim's "Take Back the Night" Campaign; Center for Campus Organizing, Cambridge, Massachusetts; Norman University, Oklahoma; University of Illinois, Chicago; University of Toronto Equity Issues Advisory Group; Sexual Harassment: Education, Counselling and Complaint Office; pictures from various sources.